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5. [] Met with Mr. J. R. Blandford, Counsel, House Armed Services Committee, as a follow up to our conversation of yesterday afternoon. I advised him that the proposition of a State Department prohibition on release of information to the Armed Services Committee on the movement of the Pueblo had been relayed. I advised that none of our people, including the Director, had any knowledge of such a prohibition. I requested Mr. Blandford's assistance insofar as he is able in determining the source of the statement. He advised that he did not know and that frankly he is not sure that it can be determined, that it came to his attention on his return, but he does not remember who said it. In any event, he will correct this misinformation with the Chairman.

Discussed briefly with Mr. Blandford the Wilson item from this morning's Post. He had no specific questions himself.

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6. [] Had a couple of conversations with Philip Kelleher, House Armed Services Committee staff, regarding hearings on the bill to increase cost of living allowances for Agency retirees. According to Kelleher, Representative Philbin will find it difficult to get a quorum next week so hearings will not be before the week of 3 June. Kelleher said that it is impossible to predict whether the Committee will prefer to handle the problem with a clean bill or an amendment to the old one (H. R. 13705) and our presentation should be geared to cope with either contingency. In fact the Committee probably will not decide which course it wants to follow until they hear our presentation. Colonel White was informed of the above.

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7. [] Russ Blandford, Chief Counsel, House Armed Services Committee, called to ask if the George Wilson article in today's Washington Post regarding the SR-71 had been "authorized." I said certainly not by us. Blandford asked where it came from and I said I could only speculate that it may have been concocted by some published information supplanted by leaks in Saigon. Blandford said Committee members may ask for comments and we should be prepared. I notified Lloyd Lauderdale, A/DDS&T, who is preparing a written comment for Blandford.

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